



VICTORIA POLICE

Introduction to Commentary

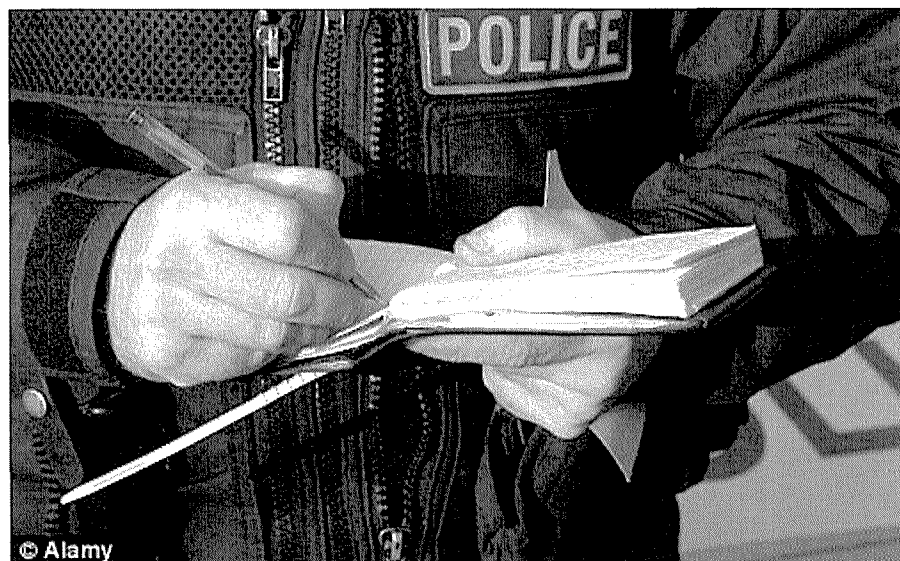
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What is Commentary?



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Evidence Gathering commentary is a contemporaneous record of events witnessed by the officer. The format of commentary should follow the same guidelines. Essentially this could act as your notes taken at the time

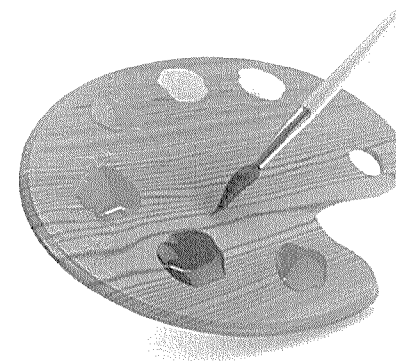


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Commentary Tips



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- Paint the Picture
- Clear and Concise
- Contemporaneous notes at the time
- Awareness of surroundings (Is there any external noise factors)
- Alter volume when required
- Mention individuals or groups who you have seen previously
- Your commentary could be used to assist the person viewing the footage
- Use inflection in your voice

Tips (Continued)



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- Don't talk too much (less is more)
- Don't give your opinion (I think this to be..)
- Avoid guessing (I think the jacket is dark red)
- Keep It Simple (KIS Principle)

No Opinion Zone

Time



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- The time function on the equipment should be set from a verifiable source (i.e Computer terminal)
- Should be referenced as often as practicable
- Use the 24hr format if possible
- Keep the format consistent. If you use AM/PM continue to use it throughout

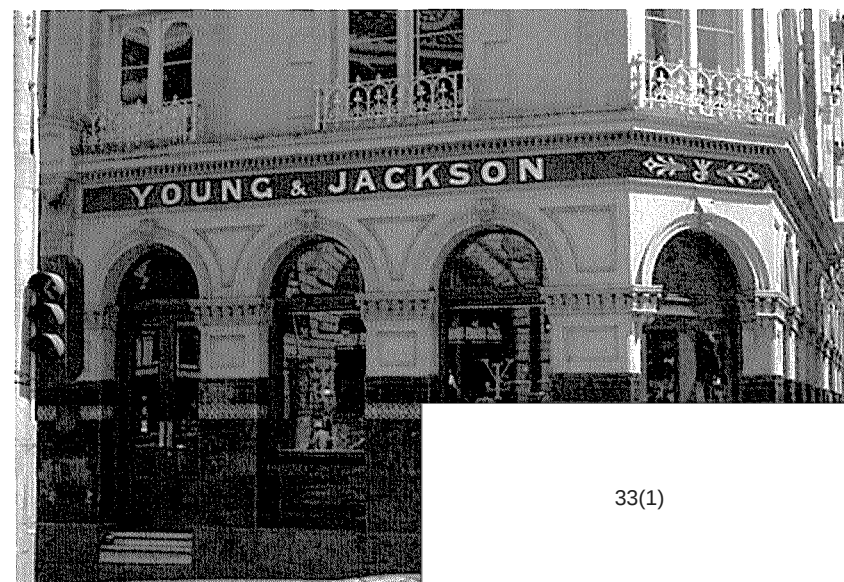


Location



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- Should be referenced whenever it changes
- Street plates/names
- For reference points use things that are most obvious such as landmarks, shops, schools etc.



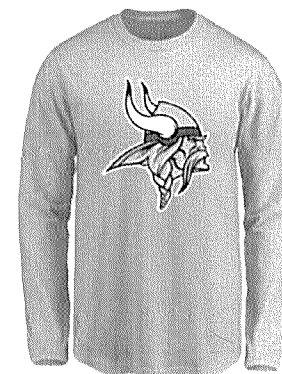
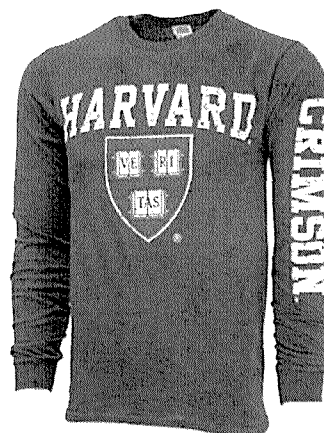
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Nicknames



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- Give a nickname if you see a person that sparks your interest.
- Use something associated with the person and something you will remember
- Don't use a nickname that will be offensive or could be construed differently
- Use numbers or lettering on clothing



ADVOKATE



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- A - Amount of time under observation
- D - Distance from subject (a good guess)
- V – Visibility conditions (set the scene, weather etc)
- O – Obstructions (i.e shields, vehicles, other offices etc)
- K – Knowledge of the subject (any known information)
- A – Any reason to remember them (Offences or descriptive clothing)
- T – Time elapsed between observation and identification
- E – Errors (If you need to clarify anything record it, the jumper I said that was purple earlier is actually blue)

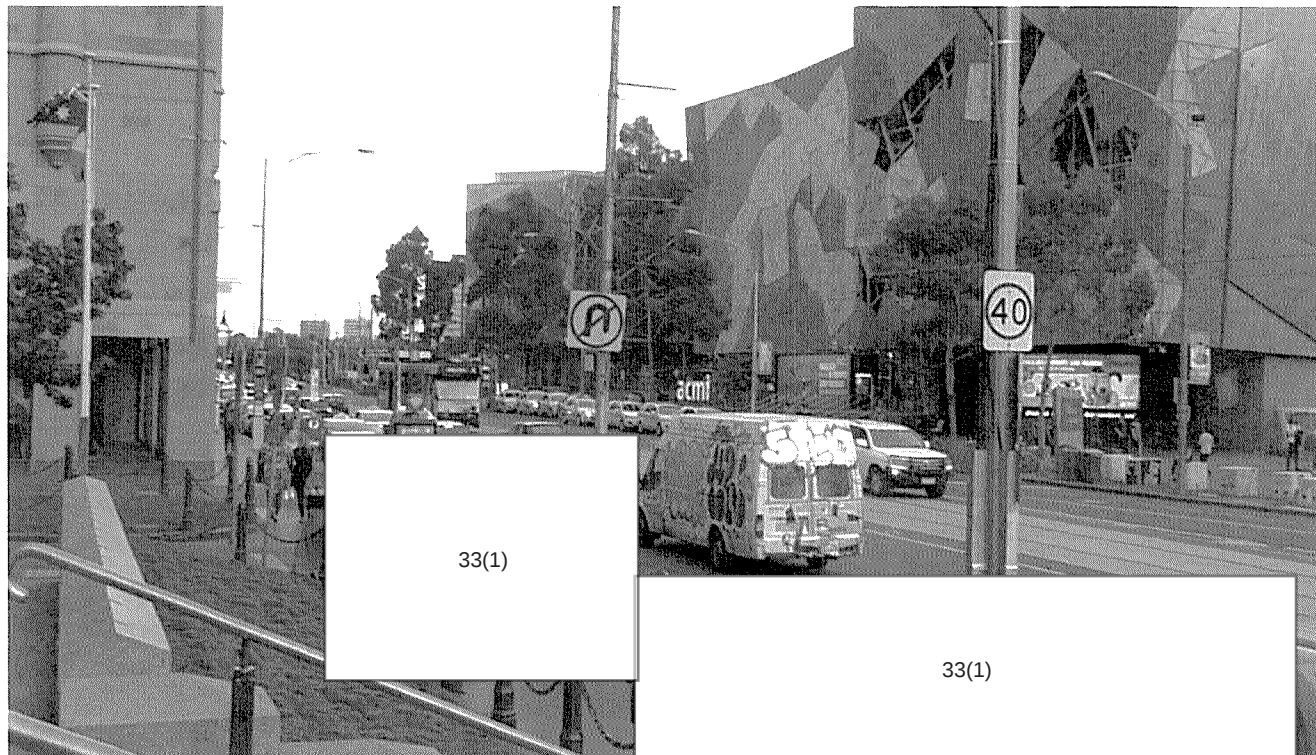
Practical Exercise



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Example

Vehicle near Federation square



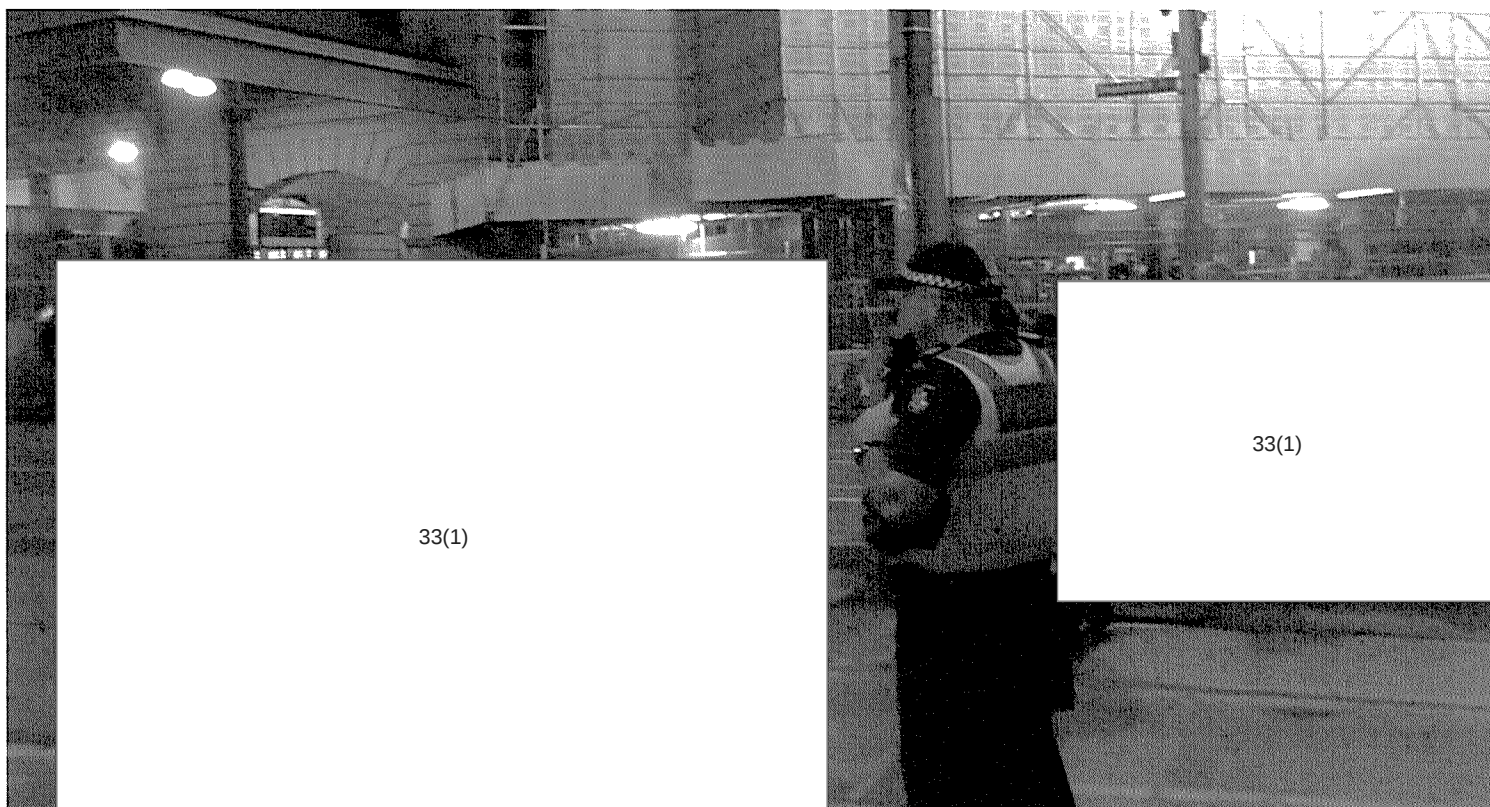
Practical Exercise



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Scenario One

Male Approaching Police



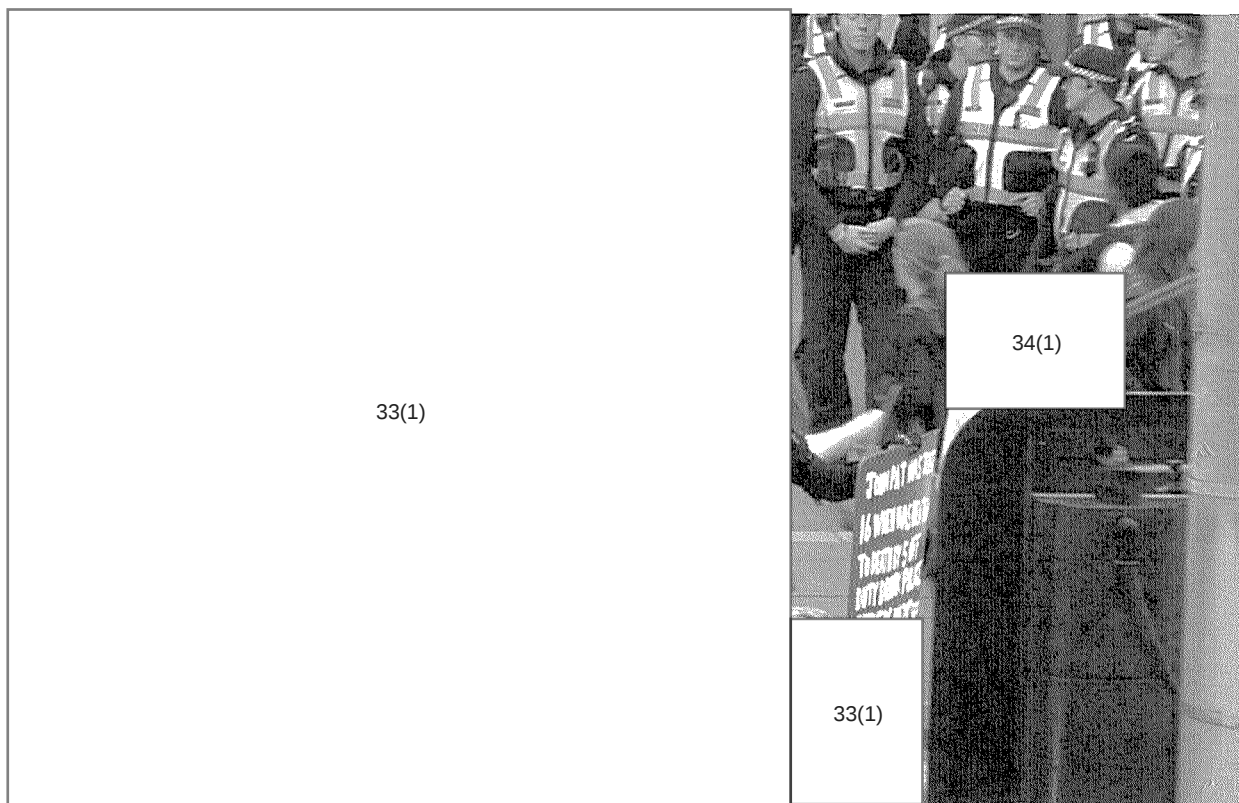
Practical Exercise



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Scenario Two

Person at demonstration



Practical Exercise



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Scenario Three

Males at Etihad Stadium

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